

# EDITORIAL CITY LIFE SECTION

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## TRUTH ON THE MOUNTAIN TOPS

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"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

**T**RUTH is truth everywhere, and everywhere it is powerful, and everywhere the same. Here, or a thousand billion miles away in space, the three angles of any triangle are equal to two right angles, ten times ten is one hundred, and

### TRUTH RULES.

"Truth is truth to the end of reckoning," says Shakespeare, and "Truth hath a quiet breast."

Many a man knows that to his sorrow, and knows that the absence of truth makes the heart UNQUIET.

Truth and honesty are brother and sister. And truth is the daughter of JUSTICE, noblest of all words and of all qualities.

*Truth is so great a perfection that if God would render himself visible to men, he would choose light for his body and TRUTH for his soul.—Pythagoras.*

A great Greek philosopher said that twenty-five hundred years ago. And no man has described truth better, for it is the soul of light, the centre of all that is real, good and lasting.

The object of this cartoon and of this editorial of many quotations is to impress on young minds, this Sunday, the oldest of all truths, that "Truth is mighty and will prevail." Esdras said it thirteen hundred years ago. Every child instinctively feels that it is true to-day.

Mr. McCay presents Truth, a huge giant figure, walking over the mountain tops, an excellent and impressive illustration of the eternal power of that which alone can stand the test of time.

Of all really great minds on this earth few have left without testifying to the power of Truth, above all other powers.

"Truth is the summit of being," says Emerson, and, again,

"The firmest and noblest ground on which people can live is truth; the real with the real; a ground on which nothing is assumed."

"Peace, if possible, but the truth at any rate," said Martin Luther.

"Truth alone wounds," said Napoleon. He knew it.

"Truth is the daughter of Time." This was said by the great Italian, Mazzini, whose hundredth anniversary the world will soon celebrate. There

*Truth marches around the earth as rapidly as the sun itself seems to go. Like the sun, it lights the dark spots and possesses a power that cannot be overcome.*

*Truth is the power that rules the world, settles all disputes in the end, wins all wars in the long run, and brings justice out of darkness.*

*To believe in truth is to grow in power.*

is a whole sermon in those six words, "TRUTH IS THE DAUGHTER OF TIME." Other things fade and disappear, falsehood dies of its own inward corruption, but through time TRUTH is born, and alone remains.

"Truth forever on the scaffold. Wrong forever on the throne." Lowell wrote that, but it is not so, not "forever," and he knew it, for he continued, "But the scaffold guards the future, and behind the great unknown sitteth God within the shadow, keeping watch above His own." And TRUTH is "HIS OWN."

Milton said it more concisely and powerfully: "Whoever knew Truth put to the worse in a free and open encounter?"

The character of Washington is built on many great accomplishments and on noble character. He freed this country from foreign rule. He gave to it the strength that it would have lacked without him. But of all his history, that which stands out in men's minds, that which inspires youth, is the old story, "I cannot tell a lie."

He had truth in him, ALL THROUGH him. And Truth is courage.

The power of the truth and its force as an inspiration are shown in the courage with which Cranmer died at the stake.

He was burned alive, never flinching. He had signed his name to what he believed to be a lie. And in being burned for what he believed to be the truth he found a happiness greater than he had known before.

Madame de Sevigne, brilliant French woman, who knew human beings and their motives, wrote:

"In all nations, truth is the most sublime, the most simple, the most difficult, and yet the most natural thing."

If you analyze the character of men that have

*"Truth is a thing immortal and perpetual, and it gives to us a beauty that fades not away in time, nor does it take away the freedom of speech which proceeds from justice; but it gives to us the knowledge of what is just and lawful, separating from them the unjust and refuting them."*

—EPICTETUS.

stood time's test of greatness, you find in each one Truth as the mainspring, whether it be Jefferson in our day, declaring all men equal, or St. Francis in the Middle Ages, preaching truth so simply that it put the most vicious of a vicious age to shame and started millions on the path of truth-seeking.

John Sterling said that knowledge is "Truth received into our intelligence."

All that we have in this world to guide us is KNOWLEDGE, and knowledge is NOT knowledge unless it also be absolute TRUTH.

Newton stands out as one of the five greatest men in all history because he formulated one TRUTH that rules throughout the universe.

All that there is of RELIGION is truth, and all that there is of SCIENCE is truth.

*"Truth is the ground of science, the centre wherein all things repose, and is the type of eternity."—Sir P. Sidney.*

*"The genuine essence of truth never dies," says Carlyle, the powerful, bitter Scotchman that hated everything except truth.*

*"What we have in us of the image of God is the love of truth and justice."*

That was said by Demosthenes, greatest orator that ever lived on earth. All the real power in oratory, in poetry, in music, science and law is TRUTH and only truth.

Read a few words from the message that Mr. McCay sends with this powerful Sunday cartoon:

"I hope you will like this picture of Truth walking along the tops of the mountains. It seems to me that it would be worth while to devote one Sunday editorial to the plain truth in these days when truth is scarce and needed."

"Nations and individuals swindle each other. Crime follows in the wake of war. The

hypocrisy that cheered departing soldiers lacks the quality of truthfulness and honesty, and now denies them their due under various pretexts.

"Young people ought to be made to realize that there is only one force in the world, which is THE PLAIN TRUTH. It is within every man's reach. It is always recognized, always respected, always wanted. It always wins in the end.

"The plain truth will burn through the best constructed lie, as an acetylene torch burns through solid steel.

"The truth, if the young man will take it as his guide and stick to it, will light him all through difficulties to success.

"Lying, cheating, dissimulation last a day and perhaps bring profit for a day. But the Truth lasts forever and brings a profit that you never lose.

"I am trying in this picture to show Truth as the only power worth talking about, striding over the earth, conquering and ruling.

"And the truth does rule in the long run. Everybody knows it. Every good old man finds his comfort in that fact, and every good young man should find his inspiration in that fact.

"Write an editorial telling the young men that there is just one weapon more powerful than any gun or poison gas or dynamite bomb, and that power is THE PLAIN TRUTH."

Mr. McCay's strong picture will stay in the minds of many young men when these words shall fade.

Think of Truth as THE great power. Remember the saying of the wise old politician that ruled a great city for years, "I did it by telling the truth. You never can remember the lies you tell, and people are sure to catch you. But the Truth will never get you into trouble."

Remember that a man who FEELS TRUTH within himself has a power that no man can have without Truth for his ally.

Very old, trite, but worth learning by heart and BELIEVING are the lines of William Cullen Bryant, the good American:

*Truth crushed to earth shall rise again;*

*The eternal years of God are hers;*

*But Error, wounded, writhes with pain,*

*And dies among his worshippers.*